

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SPAIN: ARIAS SPEECH HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

ACCORDING TO THE EMBASSY, ARIAS' REFORM SPEECH RESPONDED FAIRLY WELL TO THE DEMANDS OF THE CENTER AND LEFT WHILE GIVING SOME ASSURANCES TO THE RIGHT, AND MADE CLEAR THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE COERCED INTO ALLOWING THE COMMUNIST PARTY TO THWART ITS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE. IN ADDITION, THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS:

--FREQUENTLY ALLUDED TO THE KING AS THE GUARANTOR OF ORDERLY AND PRUDENT REFORM;

--STRESSED THAT REFORMS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH CONTINUITY AND AVOIDED MENTIONING "MAGIC FORMULAS;"

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--NOW LEAVES IT UP TO THE CORTES TO ENACT WITHOUT

EMASCULATION THE REFORM PROGRAM OUTLINED BY ARIAS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: INDICATIONS ARE THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO HAVE ITS PROGRAM ADOPTED AND, WITH ARIAS' SPEECH, THE KING'S PRESTIGE ITSELF HAS BEEN ENGAGED. THIS WOULD MAKE IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR RECALCITRANT INTERESTS IN THE CORTES TO HOLD UP THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM. (CONFIDENTIAL) MADRID 3337, 4/29.)

## 2. PORTUGAL: COSTA GOMES STILL TOUTING THE COMMUNISTS

FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTY LEADERS APRIL 29, PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT ALTHOUGH THE SOCIALISTS ARE DETERMINED TO GOVERN ALONE, THE PPD, CDS AND PCP WOULD REFUSE TO GIVE TACIT SUPPORT. THEREFORE, THE NEW GOVERNMENT MUST BE A BROADLY BASED COALITION INCLUDING THE COMMUNISTS (PCP). WHEN REMINDED OF THE US POSITION ON COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION, THE PRESIDENT RESPONDED THAT:

--EXCLUDING THE PCP WILL ONLY INVITE AGITATION.

--THE WORLD WAS EVOLVING TOWARD A NON-SOVIET STYLE OF SOCIALISM.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: AS LONG AS COSTA GOMES REMAINS PRESIDENT, THE PCP WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OUT OF PROPORTION TO THEIR ELECTORAL STRENGTH. GIVEN THE REFUSAL OF THE POPULAR DEMOCRATS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS TO ENTER A GOVERNMENT WITH THE PCP, COSTA GOMES' POSITION WILL INCREASE PRESSURE ON THE SOCIALISTS TO COME TO TERMS WITH THE COMMUNISTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 2804, 4/29.)

## 3. DAMPER THROWN ON LUSO-ANGOLAN RELATIONS

EMBASSY LISBON SAYS THE MPLA POLITICAL BUREAU HAS PROTESTED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL AND EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT EXPANDING RELATIONS WITH ITS FORMER COLONIAL RULER.

--AN MPLA COMMUNIQUE PROTESTED LISBON PRESS TREATMENT OF ANGOLA, ASSERTING THE COVERAGE WAS A SIGN OF BAD CONFIDENTIAL

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FAITH AND POOR "DIPLOMATIC SENSE."

--THE ANGOLAN CULTURAL OFFICE IN LISBON WAS CLOSED BECAUSE OF THE BOMBING OF ITS BRANCH IN OPORTO. THE OFFICE WAS THE ONLY SOURCE OF VISAS FOR ANGOLA.

--THE PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS CABLED MPLA PRESIDENT NETO TO EXPRESS SURPRISE AT THE ARREST OF MODERATE MPLA

MEMBERS AND CALLED FOR THEIR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE DOWNTURN IN RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA  
POSES A NEW CHALLENGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES AND COOP-  
ERATION MINISTER CRESPO, WHO WERE ALREADY UNDER FIRE FOR  
ALLEGED SOFTNESS IN DEALING WITH FORMER COLONIES. AT THE  
VERY LEAST THE DIFFICULTIES ARE A SETBACK TO NORMALIZATION  
OF RELATIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 2778, 4/29.) SISCO

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